



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

August 22, 1962

STATINTL

████████████████████
Librarian
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

STATINTL

Dear ██████████

My thanks for your letter of August 14, with its explanation of "For Official Use Only".

We have been considering the questions raised by Mr. Pforzheimer at the July 24 meeting of the Procurement Committee.

The committee is valuable since it gives us the opportunity to discuss common problems and obtain answers not otherwise available. In addition, it is an effective means for transmitting important information. Meeting at regular monthly intervals is highly desirable.

The National Agricultural Library's foreign publications procurement program is a highly active one as shown by the fact that at the present time about 50% of our newly cataloged titles are in languages other than English. If English language titles of foreign origin are added to this the percentage is even higher.

Although we use Publications Procurement Officers and purchase some foreign publications through commercial channels, most of our foreign publications are acquired through our exchange relations with foreign agricultural organizations. I am sorry I can't provide separate figures for our volume of collecting foreign publications. It may help you to know that in fiscal 1962, we added 13,043 books and 234,744 serial issues to our collection. These figures include both domestic and foreign publications.



Our scope is "Agriculture and related sciences", interpreted in its broadest sense, on a world-wide basis. By "Agriculture" we mean not only technical agriculture but also such areas as botany, zoology, agricultural economics, rural sociology, entomology, forestry, etc. "Related sciences" include outstanding holdings in chemistry and biology. If it would be helpful, I shall be glad to send you a copy of our comprehensive acquisition policy statement (31 pages) as soon as it is ready. It is now in process of being reproduced.

If you have any questions, I shall be glad to have you contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Bella E. Shachtman

Bella E. Shachtman
Assistant Director
Technical Services